STRANGE AND WONDERFVLL THINGS.

Happened to Richard Hasleton, borne at Braintree in Essex,

In his ten yeares trauailes in many forraine countries.

PENNED AS HE DELIVERED it from his owne mouth.

LONDON
Printed by A. I. for William Barley, and are to be solde at his shop in Gratious streete, neere Leaden hall, 1595.

Phot of 14587

TO THE VVORSHIPFVLL

Maiſter Richard Stapar, one of the vvorſhipfull companie of the Marchants aduenturers of this honourable citie of London, trading to Turkie and the *Eaſterne kingdomes. Your worſhips faithfull welwiller W. Barley, wiſheth all fortunate and happie* ſucceſſe in all your enterpriſes, with encreaſe of all worldly worſhip: and after death the ioyes vnſpeakeable.

VVorſhipfull ſir, the manie reportes of your rare vertues, generally ſpoken of all honeſt trauailers, who hath taſted the benefit of your bountie, not onely in our home borne countrey where you haue your reſidence, but in thoſe farre countries where your honeſt factors trade; by whoſe worſhipfull and expreſſe commaund giuen them, and the good they dayly do for all men which ſeeke them: your worſhip is accounted and called the Patterne of bountie, eſpecially of ſuch as are in their trauaile diſtreſſed with want, which with money are releeued, aſwell as other great coſt their fauour or friendſhip can procure, ſo that not onely the poore and needy are pleaſured thereby, but thoſe that ſwim in moſt aboundance, all proceeding of your moſt kinde and courteous diſpoſition.

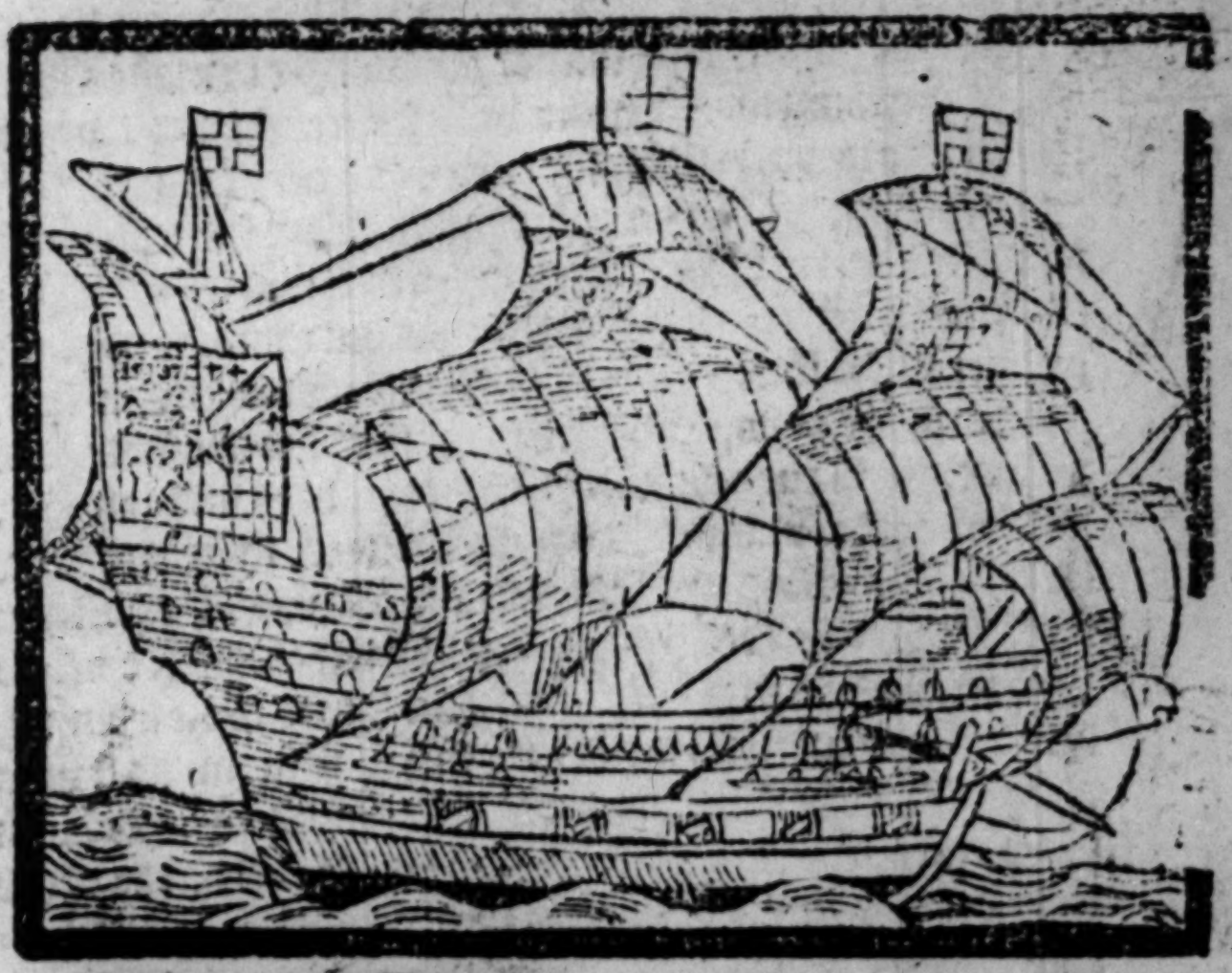
The remembrance of which, mooued a longing deſire in me, in ſome ſorte, to explaine your worthineſſe and fame by your bountie gained, it had neuer ſuch opportunitie vntill this time: when peruſing my ſtore of papers and writings, of ſundry mens labours, I chaunced

on this Pamphlet, which importeth the troublesome trauailes of our neere neighbour borne at *Brainetree* in Essex, named *Richard Hasleton*, whose miseries as they were many, being in the hands both of Christians and Heathen enemies, for God and our countries cause, and his escapes from death so often and so wonderfull, with the constant enduring of the same: his preseruation, and safe returne to England, where his longing desire so often wished him: all which considered, with your worships loue to all Trauailers, imboldned me the rather vnder your worships patronage to publish the same, especiall zeale procuring me thereunto: and partly in regarde of your many fauoures to the said *Hasleton* in his miseries extended, that your worships good ensample may lighten others to such good actions, hoping your worship will except of it no lesse friendly, then I offer it willingly, which if you do, then is my desire satisfied, and my selfe rest bounden to your worships worthinesse: euer beseeching the giuer of all good to encrease the number of such worthy minded subiects, by whom our Prince and countrie, are in forraine parts so much honoured.

Your vvorships to commaund in vvhat I may,

William Barley.

The miserable captiuitie of Richard Hasleton, borne at *Brainetree* in *Essex*.



IN the yeare 1582. departing the English coast toward the ende of May, in a ship of London, called the Mary Warten, one of the owners was a citizen of London, called M. Eastwoode, the other of them named Maister Estridge dwelling at Lime-house, being laden and bound for Petrach. A Towne of marte, being within the dominion of the Turke, where we safely arriued and made our marte, and within eight and twentie daies were lading homeward, and presently we waied anker, and set saile, and comming out of the gulfe of Lepontoe, grounded vpon a rocke, lying on the larboarde side, being in very great daunger, in doubt to lose both ship and goods, yet it pleased God that we recouered. Then about the middest of the moneth of July, we came right before Cape de gatte, when hauing a very small winde, we discried two

Gallies

Gallies, whereupon the maister commaunded the gunner to put forth the ordinance, and to heaue the skiffe ouer board, then did the gunner demaund of the maister to make a shot, which he graunted. Then did he bestow eight and twentie shot, but to no purpose, for the enemy lay very far out.

Now when we sawe our shot and powder spent so much in waste, some of our company cryed to our maister to shew the Turkes letters, but he would not, but commaunded the gunner still to shoot, for now the Gallies were within shot, and did shoote at vs, both with great shot and Muskets, and presently both our gunners were slaine, both with on shot, and some other maimed, whereby we were in great doubt, for the Gallies lying on both sides of vs, one of them had shot vs vnder water, whereby our ship was foundred before we perceiued: then we perceiuing the ship to sinke from vs, such as were weriest lept into the skiffe, as many as it was able to beare, the rest leaping ouer board, such as could swim saued them selues, going aboard the Gallies, the other were drowned. Now I being the last man vpon the hatches, because I was at the sterne and being sore hurte with a Muscot shot, the Turkes made hast to board our ship, hoping to saue some of our goods, two of them came aboard, the first came to me and toke me by the bosome, I drew out my knife very spedily and thrust him into the body, and so slew him the other was gone downe into the ship where I left him, for euen then was the ship sinking from me, wherefore I betooke my selfe to swimming and turning me about to see the ship I could see nothing thereof but onely the flag: then did I swim to the Gallies, and laying holde vpon an oare, got into the Galle: when I was aboard, I stripped of my clothes, then presently was I commaunded to the Pope to talke with the Captaine, who inquired of me whether I were a Marchant, which because I would not confesse, he gaue me xv. strokes with a cudgell, and then put me in the Galle holde, where I was fiue dayes, taking very little sustenance, lying in extreame paines, by reason of my hurts which I haue receiued in the fight, and with anguish of minde for my harde happe.

After

About three monthes after the Gallies returned to Argire, where immediatly after my landing I was solde for 66. ducates. Then did I fall into extreame sicknesse for ten dayes space, notwithstanding I was sent to sea by my maister (to whom I was sold) to labour in the Gallies at an Oares end, where I remained three moneths, being very feeble and weake, by reason my sickness continued the most part of that time, yet was I constrained either to labour or else to lose my head. I had no other choice: then the Gallies returning home to Argire, after my comming on shore I was in a maruailous weaknesse, what with continuall labour, with beating, and with sicknesse, which indured three monthes, being in a most miserable estate without all succor, seeing no man to pitty my miserie, hauing no nourishment but onely bread and water, and that but small quantity: no apparrell on me but a thin shirt, and a paire of linnen breeches, and lodged in a stable on the colde ground. Thus I being almost in dispaire euer to recouer, yeelded my selfe to the will of Almightie God, whom it pleased in the end to giue me a little strength. And after for the space of two yeares or more, I was diuers times at my labour at the oares end, after my accustomed manner, till such time our fléete of Gallies mating with the Gallies of Genua néere the Christian shore, and they following vs in chase, it chanced by reason of tempest, that our Galley was cast away néere vnto the weast side of the Iland Fermonterra: there were in it of Christians and Turkes to the number of two hundred and fiftie, which were all drowned, except fiftéene, of which my selfe with two others, with great difficultie brake our chaines, and taking holde vpon an Oare, we escaped to the shore, not without great danger of drowning. We being now gotten to land, and accompanied both with Turkes and Christians, we take our rest vnder bushes and thickets, the Turkes were very vnwilling to depart with vs, thinking to finde some other Galley of the company to take vs aboard and carie vs back to Argire, but we hoping now to get our liberties, conueyed our selues as secretly as we could into the woods and went vnto a rock and with sharpe stones we did beat off our Irons, and fled immediatly to the Christians, and yéelded our selues: but one of them which escaped with me who was borne in Sclauony, told them that I was and English Lutherian.

Then was I presently caried aboard a Gallie of Genua, and put in chaines, and vpon the morrow was I sent ouer into the Ile of Iuisey, being within the iurisdiction of Maiorque, which all are in the dominion of Spaine) there was I imprisoned in the high Tower of the towne Castell, with a paire of bolts vpon my heeles, & a clasp of Iron about my necke, there hanging a chaine at the clasp, where I remained nine dayes, fed with a little bread and water. Now because I had in no respect offended them, I demaunded wherefore they molested me, saying it was contrary to law and the profession of Christians. Then did they aske me if I had spoken any thing against the king, and against the Church of Rome? I answered nothing. Then they tolde me I should be sent to Maiorque, to answere before the Inquisition. Then the Iustice or chiefe officer of Iuesey brought me backe to Genua, requesting to haue me chained in a Galley, which the Captaine did, asking the Iustice who should be my surety for running away? He demaunded if there were not a spare chaine? he said yes: then he commaunded a chaine to be brought forth, and chained me at the first Dare before, where I rowed vntill we came to the Porte of Spine in Maiorque, garding me with fiue Gallies.

Then were the officers of the Inquisition, sent for by the Captaine, which came the second day after our comming there: and at their comming they offered me the Par, which I refused to touch: whereupon they reuiled me, and called me Lutheran, taking me presently out of the Galley, carried me on shore in Maiorque, and finding the Inquisitor walking in the Market place, presented me to him, saying: Here is the prisoner. He immediatly commaunded me to prison, whether they carried me, and put a paire of shackles on my heeles, where I remained two daies. Then was I brought forth into a Church, where the Inquisitor sate vsually in iudgement: who being ready set, commaunded me to knele downe and to do homage to certaine images which were before me, I tolde him I would not do that which I knew to be contrary to the commandements of Almighty God, neither had I beene brought vp in the Romaine lawe, neither would I submit my selfe to it. He asked me why I would not? I answered, that whereas in England, where I was borne and brought vp, the Gospell was truelie preached, and maintained by a most gracious Prince, therefore

I

I would not now commit Idolatrie, which is vtterly condemned by the word of God. Then he charged me to vtter the truth, otherwise I should abide the smart: Then was a stole set, and he commandes me to sit downe before him, and offered me the crosse, bidding me reuerently to lay my hand vpon it, and vrged me instantlie to do it, which moued me so much, that I did spit in the Inquisitors face, for which the Scribe gaue me a good buffet on the face.

So for that time we had no more reasoning, for the Inquisitor did ring a little Bell, to call vp the keeper, and caried me to warde

 againe:

againe, and the third day I was brought forth againe to the place aforesaid.

Then the Inquisitor asked me what I had seene in the Churches of England, I answered that I had seene nothing in the Church of England, but the word of God truly preached: then he demaunded how I had received the Sacraments? I replied that I had received them according to the institution of Christ that is, I received the bread in remembrance that Christ in the flesh died vpon the crosse for the redemption of man. How (said he) hast thou received the Wine? whereto I replied and said, that I received the wine, in remembrance that Christ shed his blood to wash away our sinnes. He said it was in their manner, I said no: then he charged me to speake the truth, or I should die for it. I told him I did speake the truth, and wou'd speake the truth: for (said I) it is better for me to die guiltlesse then guiltie. Then did he with great vehemency charge me againe to speake the truth, and sware by the Catholick Church of Rome, that if I did not, I should dye in fier, then I said, if I died in the faith, which I had confessed I should die guiltlesse, and tolde him he had made a vaine othe. And so I willed him to vse no circumstance to diswade me from the truth, for you cannot preuaile though I be now in your hands, where you haue power ouer my body, yet haue you no power ouer my soule. I told him he made a long matter farre from the truth, for which he said I should die. Then he bad me say what I could to saue my selfe: where I replied as followeth. Touching the maner of the receiuing of Sacraments, where he said it was like to theirs: you (said I) when you receiue the bread, say it is the very body of Christ, and likewise you affirme the wine to be his very bloud, which I denied: saying that it was vnpossible for a mortall man to eate the materiall body of Christ, or to drinke his bloud.

Then he said I had blaspheined the Catholick Church, I answered that I had said nothing against the true Catholick church, but altogether against the false church: he asked how I could proue it, saying, if I could not proue it, I should die a most cruell death.

Note by the way, that when any man is in durance for religion, he is called to answere before no open assembly, but onely in the

the presences of the Inquisitor, the Secretarie, and the Solicitor, whom they terme the Broker: the terme is as I take it, because they doubt that very many of their owne people would confesse the Gospel, if they did but see and vnderstand their absurd dealing. Againe to the matter. Because it was so secret, they vrged me to speake the more: then he inquired whether I had euer bin confest, I said yes: he demaunded to whom: I said to God: he asked me if I had euer confessed to any Frier: I said no, for I do vtterly despise them: for how can he forgiue me my sinnes, which is himselfe a sinner as all other men are.

Yes sayd he, he which confesseth himselfe to a Frier, who is a Father, may haue remission of his sinnes by his mediation, which I said I would neuer beleeue. Wherefore seeing they could seduce me by no meanes, to yeelo to their abhominable Idolatrie,

the Secretary cried, Away with him: the Inquisitor and he frowned very angerly on me for the aunswers which I had giuen, and said they would make me tell an other tale. So at the ringing of a little Bell the Keeper came and caried me to warde againe. At my first examination, when the Keeper should lead me away, the Inquisitor did blesse me with the Crosse, but neuer after. Two dayes after was I brought and set againe vpon a stoole before the Inquisitor, he bad me aske *misericordiam*, I tolde him I would craue mercie of Iesus Christ, who died for my sinnes, other *misericordiam* I would craue none. Then he commanded me to kneele before the Aultar, I said I would, but not to pray to any image, for yet r Altar is adorned with many painted images (which were fashioned by the hands of sinfull men,) which haue mouthes and speake not, eares and heare not, noses and smell net, hands and handle not, feete haue they and walke not, &c, which God doth not allow at his Altar, for he hath vtterly condemned them by his word. Then he said I had beene wrong taught, for said he, whosoeuer shall see these figures in earth, may the better remember him in heauen, whose likenesse it doth represent, who would be a mediator to God for vs: but I replied that all images were an abhemination to the Lord, for he hath condemned them in expresse words by his owne mouth, saying: Thou shalt not make thy selfe any grauen image, &c. Yea said he, but we haue nede of a Mediator to make intercession for vs, for we are vnworthy to pray to God our selues, because we are vile sinners. I sayde there was no mediator but Iesus Christ: where after many absurd reasons and vaine perswasions, he tooke a pause.

Then I asked him why he kept me so long in prison, which neuer committed offence to them, knowing very well that I had beene Captaine in Argire nere fiue yeares space: saying, That when God by his mercifull prouidence, had thorow many great dangers, set me in a Christian countrie, and deliuered me from the cruelty of the Turkes, when I thought to finde such fauour as one Christian oweth to another, I found them now more cruell then the Turkes, not knowing any cause why. The cause (said he) is, because the King hath warres with the Queene of England (for at that instant there was their Armie prepared ready to go for England:) wherevpon they would diuers times giue me repre-

reprochefull words, saying that I should heere shortly of their arriuall in Eng'and, with innumerable vaine bragges, which I omitt for breuitie.

Then did I demande if there were not peace betweene the king and the Queenes Maiestie: whether they would keepe me still: yea said he, vnlesse thou wilt submit thy selfe to the faith of the Romish Church: so he commaunded me away, I asked, wherefore he sent for me, and to send me away, not alledging any matter against me: he said I should haue no other matter alledged, but that which I had spoken with mine owne mouth. Then I demanded why they would haue the Romish Church to haue the supremacie: whereto he would make no answer. Then I asked if they toke me to be a Christian: yes said he, in some respect, but you are out of the faith of the true Church. Then the keeper toke me to prison againe: and after for the space of three weekes, I was brought forth to answer, three seuerall times euery weeke: at which times they did sometime threaten me with death, some while with punishment, and many times they attempted to seduce me with faire words, and promises of great preferment, but when they sawe nothing would drawe me from the truth, they called me shameleſſe Lutherian, saying many times: see, he is of the verie blood of Luther, he hath his very countenance: with many other friuolous speeches.

After all this, he commaunded to put me in the dungion within the Castell, fiue fathem vnder ground, giuing me once a day a little bread and water, which they let downe in a basket with a rope, there remained I one whole yeare, lying on the bare ground seeing neither Sunne nor Moone, no not hearing man woman or child speake, but onely the keeper which brought my small victuall. It happened about the yeares end, vpon the feast of Philip and Iacob, being the first day of May, that a prettie boye being the keepers sonne, came to giue me my ordinarie fode, which he vsed sometime to do. Now when he opened the doore, and had let downe the basket, I asked who was there: he answered by his name, saying here is Matthew. I asked him where his Father was: he is gone to Masse, said he: so he let downe the trapdoore and went his way, leauing the roape with the basket hanging still. And forasmuch as I lay without all comfort, repesing my

selfe

selfe onely vnto Gods prouidence, yet vnwilling to loose any opportunitie that lay in me (if God were pleased) whereby I might be deliuered.

So soone as I heard the boye was gone, I iumped vp and tooke holde vpon the roape, and wound my selfe vp to the doore, setting my foote against the wall and with my shoulders did I lift vp the trap doore. Now when I was aloft, and saw no man, for they were gone to see some ceremonies of their idolatreus exercises in the citie. I knew no way to escape away, being now in the midst of the way: wherefore it was vnpossible to conuey my selfe so secretly but I should be espyed.

Wherefore for a present shift, I went secretly into a voide roome of the Castell, where lay great store of Lime and earth, where I tied an old cloth (which I had) about my head and face, to keepe the dust out of my eyes and eares, and so did I creepe into the lime, and couered my selfe so well as I could, lying there till toward midnight: and then hearing no man stirring, I got vp, and sought some way to get forth but could find none. Then being greatly perplexed, I bent my selfe to the good pleasure of Almighty God, making my humble prayers, that he would of his mercie vouchsafe to deliuer me out of this miserable thraldome And searching too and fro, in the end I came where three great horses stoode tyed by the head and feete: then did I vnloose the halters from their heads, and the ropes from their legs, and went to the castell wall: when I had tied them end to end, I made it fast to the body of a Vine which grew vpon the wall, and by it did I strike my selfe ouer the wall into the towne ditche, where I was constrained to swim about fortie paces, before I could get forth of the ditch.

Then walked I too and fro in the city aboue two houres, seeing no man, neither could I deuise any way forth: wherefore I returned backe againe to the towne ditch, to see if I could finde any way to bring me without the towne walles, and following the ditch, at the last I perceiued by the noyse of the water, that there was a water gate thorow the wall: where I searched and found that the issue of the water was vnder the wall, then did I very venterously enter the water, and diuing vnder water, got into the watergate, and sodainly the force of the water did driue

me

me through with such violence, that it cast me headlong against an other wall on the outside, which with the blow did much amaze me: yet by the helpe of God I recouered, swimming downe the ditch, till I came where was a trough or pipe, which I tooke to be laid ouer the ditch, to conuey some fresh water spring into the city: there did I climbe vp a post which bare the same, and got vpon the top of the pipe, where some of the watch being néere the wall perceiued me, but could not any way come néere to me. Then cried they in their toung, who is there, three or foure times, but I made no answer, but crept as fast as I could to get off the pipe to land: where before I could get downe, they shot some of their Muskets after me, but thanked be God none of the shot did hit me. Thus with great difficultie I escaped out of the citie, and went about six miles from thence before the day brake.

Then I went into a thick wood, for I perceiued there was very many sent forth with fire and crie, both footemen and horsemen to apprehend me, th[illegible] I lay still the day and night following:

And after for seauen daies space I wandred thorow desart waies, among woods and bushes, many times as I came néere the porte wayes, I heard the pursuers inquiring after me, demaunding of diuers whether they had séene me passe: some were very earnest to take me, other wishing that I might escape, for very many times I was so néere them, that I heard euery word they spake. Thus I imagined by all possible meanes to auoide the hands of these vnmercifull tyrants, being in great extremity with hunger and colde: for since the time I came out of the prison, which was at the least eight dayes, I had none other sustenance but Berries which I gathered from the bushes, and the rootes of Palme, and other like rootes which I digged out of the earth, and no other apparrell but an old linnen cloth about my body, and a red Cap on my head, without either hose, shoes or any other furniture, so that by reason the way was very hard, I was forced to cut my cap in two, and lap it about my féete, to defend them from the sharpe stones and grauell.

Thus trauelling for the most part by night, I chansed to come where was a house standing alone, and néere the house there stood a cart, wherein lay certaine horse collers, where searching among them, I found the collars lined with sharpe skinnes, which skins I rent all from the collars, and apparrelled my selfe with them in this manner. I put one péece before me like a brest-plate, and an other on my shoulders and backe, with the woollie side toward my body, tying them together ouer my shoulders & vnder my armes with Palmite, which is a wéede like to that whereof our hand-baskets are made, which is well knowne to such as haue trauelled those parts: and with an other péece I made me a cap. And in these séemely ornaments I passed forth, till about thrée daies after, very early in a morning, most vnhappily I crossed an high way, where a countryman trauailing with a Moile laden with rundlets of wine, espied me, and demaunded of me whether I was bound, I said I was going to Coothea, which is a towne lying vpon the shore side, but he suspecting me to be the man which was pursued, bad me stay but I went onward, he ran after me, and threw stones at me, but I not able to ouer-runne him, being very séeble, turned backe, and with a pole which I caried began to defend my selfe, striking at him thrée or foure times, at the last I

thrust

thrust at him, and hit him on the brest, and ouerthrew him, whereupon he made a horrible crie: and immediatly there came to the number of fiftéene more, some horsemen, some footemen: some hauing swordes, some Harquebushes, and other Crosbowes: when I was thus beset, knowing no way to escape, I yeelded my selfe. Then they bound me hands and fote, laid me on a Moyle, and caried me backe againe to the citie of Maiorque, deliuering me to the Inquisitor, who when he had sent me to prison, commaunded a paire of boltes to be put on my legges, and an Iron clasp e about my neck, with a chaine of fiue fathome long hanging thereat, which was done accordingly. And on the morrow I was brought forth to the accustomed place, and in the same maner, where the Inquisitor sitting, asked me first why I had bin prison, and runne away. I said to saue my life: yea (said he) but now thou hast offended the law more then before, and therefore shall the law be now executed vpon thee.

Then I was carried away againe, and immediatly there was called an assembly of Cittizens, and such as were séene in the law, to counsell, and to take aduice, what punishment they might inflict vpon me; which being deliberated: I was brought forth againe and carried to the place of torment, which was in a Cell or vaute vnder ground, there being present but foure persons, that is to say, the Inquisitor, the Solicitor or Broker, who is to see the law executed, a Dutche woman that dwelt in the citie, who was commanded thether to tell them what I spake, because I spake many times in the Dutche tounge, and lastly the tormentor. The Racke now standing ready before them, with seauen Flaren roapes lying thereon, new bought from the market.

Then the Inquisitor charged me (as at all other times he vsed to do) that I should speake what I had to say, and to speake the truth, otherwise I should be euen now tormented to the death. I séeing my selfe in the hands of such cruell tyrants, as alwayes thirst after the bloud of the innocent, euen as Caine who being wroth with his brother Abell, and carrying an vgly countenance, could no way be eased but with his brothers bloud: so I past hope of life, turned my back toward them, and séeing my torments present before me, I fell downe vpon my knées, & besought the Lord to forgiue me my sinnes, and to strengthen my faith,

and to graunt me patience to indure to the end.

Then they toke me into a voide roome, and stripped me out of my ornaments of sharpe steele, which I repeated before, and put a paire of strong Canuas breeches vpon me to couer my priuities, then bringing me to the racke againe, he commaunded me to lie downe (the barres of the Racke vnder me were as sharpe as the backe of a knife) now I willingly yeelding my selfe, lay downe, then the tormentor bound my hands ouer my breast crosse wise, and my legs clasped vp together, were fast tied the one foot to the other knee. Then he fastened to either arme a corde, about the brawne of the arme, and likewise to either thigh an other, which were all made fast againe vnder the racke to the barres, and with an other corde he bound downe my head, and put a hollow Cane into my mouth: then he put foure cudgels into the ropes which were fastened to my armes and thighes.

Now the woman which was present being interpretor, began to perswade me to yeelde, and confesse the faith of the Church of Rome. I answered, if it were the will of God that I should end my life vnder their cruell hands, I must be content: but if it please him, he is able to deliuer me, if there were ten thousands against me. Then the tormentor (as he was commaunded) began to wrest the ropes, which he did by little and little to augment my paines, and to haue them indure the longer, but in the end he drew them with such violence, as though he would haue plucked my foure quarters in sunder, and there stayed a good space: yet to declare their tyrannicall malice, thinking my torment not sufficient, he added more, powring water thorow the Cane which was in my mouth by little and little, which I was constrained either to let downe, or to haue my breath stopped, vntill they had tunned in such quantitie, as was not tollerable to indure, which pained me extreamely: yet not satisfied, they toke and wet a linnen cloath, and laid it ouer my mouth, till I was almost strangled: when my body being thus ouercharged with such aboundance of water, after they had thus stopped my breath with the wet cloth, suddenlie with the force of my breath, and that my stomack was so much ouercharged, the water gushed out and bare away the cloath as if it had beene the force of a condict spoute. When the Inquisitor saw that all this would not make me yeeld, he commanded the tormentor

for to winde the corde on my left arme more straight. which put me to horrible paines, and immediatly the reape burst in sunder. Then said the Inquisitor, yea is he so strong, I will make him yeld, and commaunded the torments to put to a new reape.

Then the woman againe bad me yéeld, saying it were better to yéeld then to die so miserable a death: but I besought Almightie God to ease me of my paines, and to forgiue me my sinnes, answering her, that though they had power ouer my body, yet there was no torment should compell me to yéelde to their idolatrie, whereby I might bring my soule in danger of hell fire. Then the Inquisitor asked her, what I said: she answered that I had said I would neuer submit my selfe to the Church of Rome: then did he most vehemently charge me to yéeld and submit my selfe to the Romish Church, otherwise he would pluck off one of my armes:

Whereupon I denying still, the tormentor in most cruell maner, wrested the ropes as if he would haue rent my body in sunder: I being now in vntolerable paines, and looking for nothing but present death, cryed out in the extremity of my anguish. Now farewell wife and children, and farewell England, and so not able to vtter one word more, lay euen senceleſſe.

The Inquisitor asked the woman againe what I said, she layd her hand vpon my head, & perceiuing that I was speechleſſe, tolde him I was dead: wherefore the Tormentor loosed the ropes, vnbeund my hands and feete, and caried me vnto a chamber which they termed S. Walters chamber. Where I comming to my selfe and receiuing some sence and reason, but could haue no feeling of any limme or ioynte. Thus I lay in a most lamentable and pittifull manner for fiue dayes, hauing a continuall issue of bloude and water forth of my mouth all that space, and being so feeble and weake by reason of my torments, that I could take no sustenance: till the first day, a little recouering my strength, they gaue me a little quantity of bread and wine sod together, and presently the very same day, they caried me forth into the City, and set me vpon an Asses backe, and whipped me thorow out euery streete of the City of Maiorque, giuing me to the number of fiue hundred lashes, which made the bloud to renne downe my miserable carcase in such abundance, that it dropped at the belly of the Asse, to the ground. Now there were caried with me about the Citty very many harlots and whores, and other malefactors which had offended the law, but none punished like me. After this they caryed me to the chamber from whence I came, where I lay without all worldly comforte.

Can any man (which vnderstandeth the absurd blindneſſe, and wilfull ignorance, of these Spanish tyrants, or Romish monsters) thinke them to be of the true church, which defend their faith with fire, sworde, and hellish torments, without all remorse or pitty, as you may perceiue by a manifest triall here set downe to the open viewe of the world: for when these helhounds had tormented this miserable creature, as you haue heard with a monstrous and most vnchristian kinde of torment, which he indured for the space of three houres: till being at the very poynt of death, and ready to yeeld vp the ghost, they not yet satisfied with these tor-

ments

ments which he had suffered already, reserued his life, minding to increase his paines, which they were nothing slacke to performe, so long as he remained in their power.

Now the second night after that they had whipped me about the city as aforesayd, about midnight I recounting to my selfe in what misery I both did and had remained, I thought to put in practise once againe to get my libertie, craving of the Lord with hearties prayer to assist me with his mighty hand.

And immediatly searching about, I found an olde Iron stub, with the which I brake an hole thorow the chamber wall, and crept through into an other chamber, where I felt in the darke many peeces of plate, which I little regarded: after I found manie Towels and Table napkins. Then seeking further, I found a long Cane whereon there hung many puddings and Sauceges, I plucked downe the Cane, but had little minde on the victuall. Then I found certaine knives, then I espied some light at a great window in a Garret or loft ouer me: wherefore I tied a crooked knife to the Cane, and thrust vp a long Towell, and with the knife at the end of the Cane I drew the Towell about a barre of the window, and drew it to me, and with that towell I did climbe vp into the windowe, but then I could not get forth betweene the barres, wherefore I digged forth one of the barres, and tyed my towels and napkins together end to end, and fastned one end to a barre of the windowe, and then did slide downe by them till I came within three or foure fathom of the ground, when the towels brake in sunder, and I fell downe into a Well which was direct vnder me, where I was almost drowned: yet it pleased God to deliuer me. And then being in the city without the castell walles, I knowing no other way to get out, went againe to the towne ditch, where I got thorow the water gate with lesse perill then before, by reason there was lesse water then was the other time. Then went I with all speede into the woods, lying all dayes in woods as close as I could, and trauailed by nights thorow woods and mountaines: and vpon the third night about midnight, I happened into an Olive garden, not aboue halfe a bow shote from the sea side, in which garden I found a little skiffe or boate lying vnder a Pomegranate tree, and there lay in the boate a hatchet, all which serued happily for my deliuery.

Now

Now I being vnable to carrie the boate to the water side, did cut small trunchens of wood, and vpon them did slide it downe to the water side. Then I cut downe an arme of an Oliue tree, to make my boate a mast, and hauing no other shift, made me a saile cloth with my breeches and a peece of mantle which I had about me, and for my Oares were very meane, yet durst I stay to looke for no better, but presently set sayle and yealded my selfe to the good pleasure of almighty God, betooke my selfe to sea, willing rather to abide what the Lord would lay vpon me, then to dye among these most cruell tirants.

And by the prouidence of God, vpon the second day in the forenoone I discryed the coast of Barbarie, for the winde stoode northeast, which serued me most happily.

Understand that this cut is from shoare to shoare, one hundred and fifty leagues, which is foure hundred and fifty Englishmiles, and at that time a very rough sea, in somuch if it had not bin by the greate and wonderfull power of God, my vessell and I, had both bin ouer whelmed.

But I falling with the countrie of Cabiles, commonly called the king of Cookooes lande, neere a towne called Gigeley, where I went on shoare, leauing my boate to swimme which way the winde and weather would conduct it, thinking it had done me sufficient seruice.

But see now, when I had escaped through the surges of the sea from the cruelty of the Spaniard, I was no sooner landed and entered the Mountaines, but being espied by the Moores which inhabit the countrie, who pursued very earnestly to take me, supposing me to be come from the Christian shoare to robbe in their coaste, for many times the Spaniards will passe ouer in some small vessell, and go on shoare: and if they can catch any man of the countrey, they carry them away to make Gallie slaues, wherefore the Moores are very diligent to pursue them at their landing: and if it chaunce they take any Christian they vse him in like sort. Wherefore I being very vnwilling to fall into their hands, was constrained to go into a riuer which ranne betweene two Mountaines, and there to stand in water vp to the chinne, where the bushes and trees did growe most thick ouer me: where I stood certaine houres, vntill they had left searching for me.

Now

Now when I perceiued they were departed, I went out: the water being very faire, for I eat nothing all that time, but the barke of the trees which I cut with my hatchet. I went forth as secretly as I could, minding to passe to Argire: I had not gone aboue three miles, when I espied a Moore a very well fauoured olde man, who was weeding in a field of wheat, I spake vnto him in the tonng of Franke, and called him to me, I hauing my hatchet in my hand cast it from me,

The Moore was afraide.

he came vnto me, and taking me by the hand, demaunded very gently what I would haue. I perceiuing that he did cuen at the first sight pitty my poore and miserable estate, tolde him all things that had happened vnto me, how I was an Englishman, how I had bin Captiue in Argire, how I chanced

to come to Genua, their sending me to Maiorque, and all the the torment which I had suffered there, and finally, my escape from thence, with all the rest that followed.

The charitable minde of a simple olde man.

This good aged father, when he had heard my lamentable discourse, shewing himselfe rather a Christian, then a man brought vp among the Turkish Mahometists, greatly pitied my misery, and forth with did leade me home to his house, and caused such victuals as the countrie yeeldeth to be set before me, which was dried Wheate and Honie, and baked a cake vpon the fire hearth, and then fried it with Butter which I thought very good meate, for I had not beene at the like banket in fiue yeares before: the good father shewing me what comfort he could.

There I remained foure and twentie houers, in the meane time the Moores which dwelt in the villages by, vnderstanding of my being there, came, and calling me forth, inquired of me what I was, from whence I came, and whether I would, and with great vehemencie charged their weapons against my brest, insomuch that I thought they would verily haue slaine me, but mine host that good old man came forth and answered for me, and so dispaded them from doing me any harme, and toke me backe againe into his house.

The old man still pitied him, and did what lay in him to deliuer him.

This being past, I requested him to helpe me to a guide to conduct me to Argire, and he presently prouided two, whereof the one was his sonne, to whom I promised to giue foure crownes for their paines. So taking my leaue of my good host, we toke our way toward Argire; when we had not passed about xviij. miles on the way, we chanced to meete a Gentleman of that countrie, who was as it were Purueior to the king, and went about the countrie to take vp corne and graine for the kings prouision: he meeting vs vpon the way, asked whether we were trauailing: my guides answered, that we were going to Argire, he asked what we had to do there: they layde to deliuer me there. Then he demanded what I was: they told him I was an Englishman that came from the Christian shoare, and was bound towards Argire.

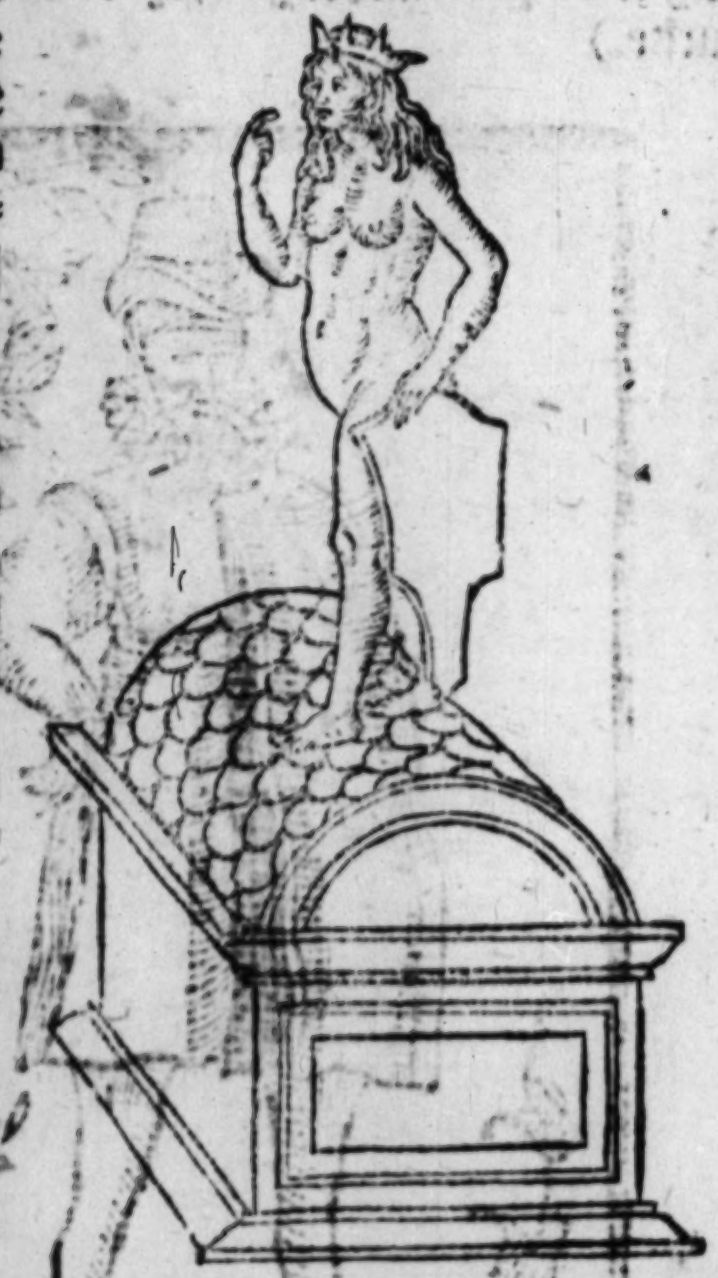
The captiuitie of Richard Hasleton.

Then did this Gentleman take me from them, sending them backe from whence they came, but compelled me to goe with him to a village by, and very earnestly perswaded me to turne Moore, promising if I would, he would be a meane to preferre me greatly, which I still denyed. Then vpon the next day, he caried me further to a towne called Tangote, and deliuered me to a nobleman of great authoritie with the king, which was as Lieftenant generall for the warres (for this King of Cookeoe houldeth continuall warre with the King of Argire, although they be both subiect to the great Turke.)

I was no sooner brought before this Nobleman, but he

demanded whether I would turne Moore, I answered that I would not: whereupon immediatly he commanded a paire of shackels to be put on my heeles, and a clasp of Iron about my neck, with a chaine thereat. I

Then was I set vpon a Mule, and conueyed to Cookoe, where the King lay: when I was come thether I was presently brought before the king: who inquired what I was, and from whence I came & what my pretence was. I answered that I was an Englishman, and that I came from the Christian shore, intending to passe to Argire. Then he asked me what I could do, I tolde him I could do nothing. Then he demanded whether I were a Gunner, I said no: then he perswaded me very instantly to yelde to their religion, offering to preferre me: wherefore, I desired him to giue me libertie to depart, for my desire is to be in Eng-



Gunners are in great estimation with them.

land with my wife and children. Yea, said he, but how wilt thou come there, for they minded to keepe me still: and euermore the king assayed to seduce me with promises of great preferment, saying: if I would serue him and turne Moore, I should want nothing. But on the contrary, I besought him to giue me libertie to goto Argire, where I was in hope to

be

he deliuered, and sent home to mine owne countrie.

Now he seeing he could winne me by no gentle meanes, commaunded me to prison, saying, that he would either make me to yelde and turne Moore, or else I should die in captiuitie.

In this while that I remained in prison, diuerse of the kings house came to me, perswading me to yelde to the kings demaund, alledging how hardly the king might vse me, being now in his power, vnable any way to escape, and againe how bountifully the king would deale with me, if I would submit my selfe.

Within a little time after, it happened there was great preparation for to receiue the King of Abbesse, whose country adioineth to the king of Cookooes land, and are in league together, and ioyne their armies in one against the king of Argire. Now at his comming, I was fetcht forth of prison, and commaunded to charge certaine peeces of Ordinance, which were three Sacres and two Minions of brasse, which I refused not to doe, trusting thereby to get some libertie, wherefore at the comming of this king of Abbesse into the towne, I discharged the Ordinance as liked them very well, for they are not very expert in that exercise, for which I had some more libertie then before.

These men are nothing expert in Artillerie.

This King of Abbesse tarrying some certaine time there in consulting with the king of Cookooe, for matters touching the warres with Argire, and vnderstanding of me, sent for me, being very desirous to talke with me, where after certaine questions, he desired of the other king that he might buie me, which he would not graunt. Then the King of Cabiles or Cookooe perswaded me very seriously to serue him willie, and to turne Moore, and offered to giue me vij. hundred Dubles by the yeare, which amounteth to the summe of fiftie pounds of English money, and moreouer to giue me by the day thirtie Aspers (which is worth twelue pence English) to finde me meate, and likewise to giue me a house and lande sufficient to sowe an hundreth bushels of graine yearely, and two Plowe of Oxen, furnished to till the same: also to furnish me with horse, Musket, Sworde, and other necessaries, such

Very many offers of preferment to drawe me from the word of God.

as

as they of that country vse. And lastly he offered to giue me a wife freely, which they estéemed the greatest matter, for al buy their wiues at a great price, yea if there were any in his court could content me I should make my choise, but if there were not, he would prouide one to my contentment, whatsoeuer it should cost him. But whē he perceiued all he said was in vaine, he sent the Quéene and her gentle women to talke with me.

When she came, she very courteously intreated me to turne and serue the King, and to consider well what a large offer the King had made, saying, that I was much vnlike to come to any like preferment in my country: and many times she would shew me her Gentlewomen, and aske me if none of them could please me, but I tolde her I had a wife in mine owns

owne country to whome I had vowed my faith before God and the world, which vow I said I would neuer breake while we both liued. Then she sayd she cou'd but martiaile what she should be whome I esteemed so much, as to refuse such offers of preferment for her sake, being now where I must remaine in captiuity & slauery, all the daies of my life, but whē she could preuaile no way with me, when she had vttered these forsaid spæches, & many other which were friuolous to rehearse, she left me, yet by her meanes I had more libertie then before.

After this I was set to sawe Boardes and Plankes, and was commaunded to make a carriage for a pæce of Ordinance: Thus they compelled me to labour daily, which I did the more willingly, because I hoped still to get my libertie thereby in the end. Then they willed me to shew the fashion of our edge tooles after the English, which when they saw the fashion, their Smithes wrought them very artificially, & gaue them very good temper: for these things I was had in more estimation, insomuch that they toke off my Irons, and let me walke abroad with a kæper. Then was I commanded by the king, to teach the Carpenters to frame a house after the manner of English building, and for that purpose were sent forth Carpenters and workemen with me to the woods to fall timber, all which were to do what I appointed vpon the kings commandement. Now I being chiefe Maister of the worke, appointed out the trées which were very speciall good timber: in small time we had finished our frame, which liked the King very well. By this means I had more liberty then before, and was very well intreated, yet I was greatly grieued in minde, that I could not procure any meanes for my liberty, although at that time I wanted few necessaries: yet was I daily deuising how I might escape away, for three speciall causes: one was, for the speciall care I had of my saluation, because (as you haue heard) there were many temptations laide before me, to drawe me from a Christian to be an abhominable idolatour. The second cause was, for the loue & dutifull allegiance which I owe to my Prince & naturall countrie. The third is, the regard of the vow which I had vowed in matrimonie, & the care of my poore wife & children: which causes moued me so much,

I was made maister of worke wherin I had but small skill.

that

that whereas by reason of my diligence in these foresaid matters, I walking abroad with my keeper, who not suspecting me, was not so attentiue as before he had beene. So soone as our frame was finished, I tooke opportunitie, and shewing them a paire of heeles, tooke my way over the Mountaines, intending to go for Argire. But presently there was great store of men, both on horseback and one foote, who being more perfect in the way then I was, quickly ouertooke me, & caried me back againe to Cookooe. I was presently brought before the King, who asked me why I ran away? I told him to haue libertie. Then he called certaine of his seruants to him, and commanded them to lay me downe at his feete, which foure of them did, and laying me flat vpon the belly, one of them gaue me 75 stripes with a great cudgell, till I was not able to remoue out of the place. Then the king commanded to carie me to prison againe, whether two of them caried me, and put me in Irons and there left me, where I remained for the space of two moneths: then was I brought forth of prison, & sent daily to a fountaine or well, about halfe a league from the towne to fetch water with a couple of Asses, for ẏ vse of the kings house,

I was now made a water bearer.

Now

Now in this time many artificers, as Smithes, Joyners, and carpenters, and many other, came to me to vnderstand the fashion of many English toles, as Plane yrons, Goudges, Chissels, and such like, for which they shewed me some fauour, and gaue me some meney: and when I had gotten a little money, I bestowed it vpon apparell, and caused it to be made like to theirs, which I caried secretly, when I went to fetch water, and did hide it in adzis cane vnder the side of a rocke: I bought me likewise a sworde and a launce, such as they vse to trauaile with, I also prouided a file, all which I laide vp with my apparell.

It happened that the King of Abbesse, came againe to visit the King, and to take counsaile about warlike affaires, as vsu-

ally they did, wherefore when they heard of his comming, making great preparation for him, it fell out so that there wanted water, in the offices: where in an euening there was exceeding thunder, and raine, and lightning so that there was no man would goe for water, but euery one calling for the Englishman: then I, which durst say no nay, toke the vessels, and hang them vpon the Asses, and so went thorow raine, and winde, and thunder, and all, till I came to the well, where I left my Asses, to wander whither they would, and went to my apparrell, and with my File cut off my yrons, and made me ready, in my sute of Moores clothing, and with my swoorde by my side, and my Launce on my shoulder, toke my way once againe towards Argire.

And that night I went about twentie miles ouer Rockes, and mountaines, keeping my self out of beaten waies, casting my way by the moone and starres. When the day began to be light I lay me downe in a brake of thicke bushes, and there I slept the most parte of the day, and in the euening I began to trauell forth on my way.

Now on the third night I was to passe a bridge where was continuall watch, and warde, both day and night, where I must of necessitie passe, by reason the riuer ran betwirt two mountaines which were so steepe that no man can neither goe downe to enter water, nor yet beeing in, can by any possible meanes get vp on the other side, which riuer is a great defence to the Countrey.

Where I vsed no delay but entered the Bridge in the beginning of the night, about nine of the clocke, being in great doubt of the watch, but at the first end of the Bridge I saw no man, vntill I was happily passed ouer, then there came one after me and asked who goes there, it being somewhat darke and I in apparrell and with my weapons like a Moore, of their countrey, answered bouldly that I was a freind and tolde him I was comming to the Gouernour to deliuer letters from the King, for neere the riuers side there is a Millage, where dwelleth hee who hath charge of the keeping of this passage.

Whereby

whereby I went onward thorow the Village, but before I was farre passed: I heard horsemen vpon the Bridge, which asked whether any man had passed that night, the watchmen told them there was one gone euen now, which said he went to deliuer the Kings letters to the Officer.

But I thought no time now to heare any more of their talke but betooke me to my heeles, and so soone as I was without the Towne I went out of the Porte way, into woodes, and kept desert wayes that night and day following. And the next night I came within the liberties of the King of Argire, where I knew the Cabiles, could not fetch me backe againe.

In this order I escaped their hands, by the mightie power of God: for vnderstand, that in these desart Mountaines there are all manner of wilde beasts in great number, as Lions, Beares, Wolues of marueilous bignesse, Apes, wilde Swine, and also wilde Horses and Asses, with many other hurtfull beasts, yet was I neuer in danger of any of these.

Many dangerous wilde beasts in that countrey.

In this countrie of Cabyles, there is diuerse kindes of verie pure mettales, as Golde, Siluer, and Lead, and good Yron and Steele, but they for want of knowledge and skill, make no vse of any mettall, except Yron and Steele: although at such times as I haue beene present whiles the Smithes haue tryed their Yron, I haue seene among the drosse of the Yron very perfect golde, which they perceiuing me to beholde, were very inquisitiue to vnderstand whether it were golde, or any other

other mettail of substance: but I tolde them it was but a kinde of drosse, whereof we made coulours for painting in England.

They caried me out to the Mountaines, and shewed me the rockes where they gathered their Yron, which rocks had vaines of very pure golde Mare, which I would not reuelle to them, but answered as before: because I doubted if the king once knew me to haue experience in such mysteries, he would kæpe me the more straight, whereby I might haue remained in bondage during my life.

Now when I was within the countrie of Argire, I was out of danger from the pursuers, and then did I walke by day, and kept the common wayes. where comming within the view of Argire, vpon the way I met a Turke, who knew me at the first sight, since I was prisoner in Argire, and demaunded if I had not bene captiue with such a man: I sayd yes: he then inquired whether I went to the citie: I saide yes, then returned he backe, and did accompanie me to the Citie.

When I came there, I would haue gone to the English house, but he led me violently to my olde Maister, where I rested me a day and a night, my maister not being very earnest, for because in this time that I was absent all the English captiues were redæmed and sent home. Wherefore I went to the English counsell, hoping to be presently deliuered, who gaue me very good words, but did not shew me that fauour which he professed.

I could make some discourse of his vnkinde dealing with me and other of our countreymen, which I will leaue till more fit occasion: for vnderstand that whiles I was with him, there came a messenger from my olde maister, with whome I was before I went to Genua, who would haue caried me away by force, but I would not goe, requesting the counsell to take order for my deliuerie: but he perswaded me to goe with him, saying, that he would in time prouide for my libertie.

But by meanes I would not yelde to go to my Maister, nor yet the counsell would not take order for me, I was taken

by the kings officers, and put in chaines in the Kings prison among other captiues: and at the next setting out of the Gallies I was put to my olde occupation, where I remained a Galley slaue fower yeares and aboue after.

In which time I was eight voyages at sea, and at such time as the Galleys lay in harbour, I was imprisoned with the rest of the captiues, where our ordinarie foode was bread and water, and at some selve times, as once or twise in the weeke a small quantitie of sodden wheat.

To conclude, I passed my time in sickenesse and extreame slaucrie, vntill by the helpe of an honest Marchant of this citie of London, and hauing a very fitte opportunitie by meanes of certaine our English ships were ready to set saile bound homeward, vpon Christmas euen being the 23 of December 1592. I came aboard the Cherubim of London: who weighing anchor, and hauing a happy gale, arriued in England toward the end of Februarie following.

Thus haue yee heard how it hath pleased the Almightie God (after many and great miseries) to bring me to the porte which I longed greatly to see: beseeching God of his mercy, to prolong the dayes of our most gratious and renowmed Queene, whose fame reacheth farre, and whose most happy gouernment is in admiration with forraine Princes. So wishing all to the glory of God, and furtherance of the Gospell,

I end.

FINIS.

Collated & K
3/28/33 R+